



Ready

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A partnership program between EPA's Climate Change Division, Oceans and Coastal Protection Division, and the National Estuary Program

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READY? Find the
tools you need.
www.epa.gov/cre*

2009 Partners Announced

A new set of National Estuary Program (NEP) partners has been awarded grants or direct technical assistance in 2009 through the Climate Ready Estuaries (CRE) program. Assistance awarded to these programs will enable them to conduct vulnerability assessments,



Indian River Lagoon, FL Photo by John H. McShane

implement adaptation strategies, and enhance stakeholder communication. Results of these projects will be useful in other coastal communities and will be shared through conferences and various media outlets. These awards are the next step for the

CRE program, which helped launch pilot projects for six NEP's in 2008. Lessons learned from these pilot projects will help direct the 2009 projects.

Congratulations to the following partners! Keep an eye on the CRE website to watch these projects evolve.

BarNEGAT Bay National Estuary Program (NJ)

Casco Bay Estuary Partnership (ME)

Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program (FL)

Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program (FL)

Long Island Sound Study (CT, NY)

Partnership for the Delaware Estuary (DE, PA, NJ)

Tampa Bay Estuary Program (FL)

Partner Spotlight



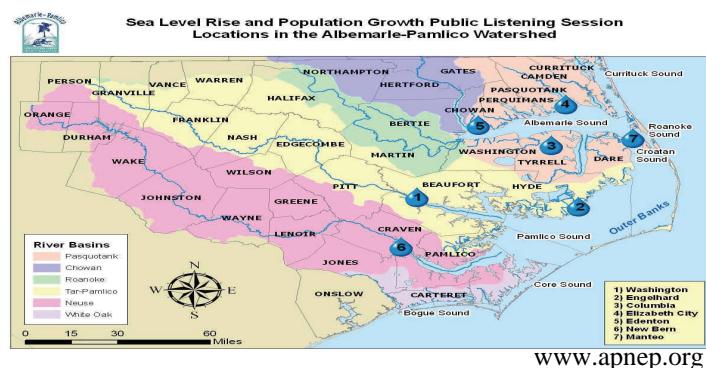
SEA-LEVEL RISE, POPULATION GROWTH UP FOR DISCUSSION AT COMMUNITY FORUMS

RALEIGH, NC – Residents of the Albemarle-Pamlico region were invited to share their ideas and concerns about sea-level rise and population growth in North Carolina during a series of listening sessions in July and August, 2008.

The Albemarle and Pamlico Sounds region is among the top three areas most threatened by sea level rise in the United States. To help gather community-based responses to protect this coastal region, the Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Program (APNEP) and the Albemarle-Pamlico Conservation and Communities Collaborative (AP3C) hosted the forums to inform future conservation and community development efforts.

The forums were held in the evenings on seven different dates at the following locations:

- July 17 – Washington
- July 21 – Engelhard
- July 22 – Columbia
- August 4 – Elizabeth City
- August 5 – Edenton
- August 11 – New Bern
- August 18 – Manteo



Over 100 residents attended these sessions and presented their views on sea level rise and how its effects and solutions may impact them directly. To view a full report on the listening sessions, visit <http://www.apnep.org/pages/PublicListeningSessionsReport.pdf>

For more information about the forums, please contact Lucy Henry, APNEP watershed management coordinator, at (919) 715-4074 or lucy.henry@ncmail.net; or Sharon Campbell at (919) 274-6845 or Campbell.sharon@bellsouth.net.

CASCO BAY ESTUARY PROGRAM HOLDS FIRST CLIMATE CHANGE OUTREACH WORKSHOPS

The Casco Bay watershed encompasses 42 cities and towns which are home to countless local decision makers including town managers, planning officials, and public works crews. Every decision made has the potential to impact the watershed, and also holds the opportunity to help improve the region's resilience and adaptability to climate change. Providing useful, targeted, and relevant information on local climate change impacts to such a broad range of stakeholders can prove difficult, which is why Casco Bay Estuary Partnership (CBEP) has taken on the challenge of becoming a communications channel for local decision-makers.

As a first step in this process, CBEP convened three meetings of local officials and other stakeholders on July 28th and 29th, 2009. The meetings were a great success and resulted in lists of target audiences and potential partners, as well as an initial outreach strategy. The strategy centers around using existing communication mechanisms and a targeted approach to provide information on climate change impacts and vulnerabilities to diverse audiences.

For more information contact Curtis Bohlen, at cbohlen@usm.maine.edu

Resource Corner



NEP CLIMATE CHANGE FACTSHEETS

Did You Know?? - A series of fact sheets highlights significant efforts and successes of the National Estuary Programs. Each fact sheet is a case study of a specific estuary program, and topics range from determining an estuary's economic values to smart growth to water quality improvements. Three of these fact sheets are dedicated specifically to addressing climate change and spotlight three NEP partners participating in the CRE program:

- Climate Change, Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program
- Vulnerabilities to Climate Change, Piscataqua Region Estuaries Partnership
- Responding to Climate Change, Partnership for the Delaware Estuary

All fact sheets can be found at,
[http://www.epa.gov/owow/estuaries/
action.html](http://www.epa.gov/owow/estuaries/action.html)

NEW WEBSITE OFFERS ACCESS TO CLIMATE CHANGE RESOURCES AND DISCUSSION FORUM

States and communities struggling with what to do to prepare for climate change now have a resource to learn about its potential impacts, as well as what other coastal managers are doing to plan for and adapt to those impacts. The NOAA Coastal Services Center has released the Coastal Climate Adaptation website, which focuses on adaptation-related resources, such as local and state plans, new policies, case studies, risk and vulnerability assessments, and decision-support tools. The site is also building a community of practitioners on coastal climate adaptation via a forum where users can suggest new resources, engage in dialog on the issues, and submit comments and questions.

Visit [http://community.csc.noaa.gov/
climateadaptation/](http://community.csc.noaa.gov/climateadaptation/) to learn more.



Photo by Nancy Laurson

MASSACHUSETTS OFFICE OF COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCES FIVE STORMSMART COASTS PILOT PROJECTS

The Commonwealth will help seven communities from Boston and the South Shore to the Cape and Islands become more resilient to the effects of climate change

Visit <http://www.mass.gov/czm/stormsmart/>

CRE PARTNER WORKSHOP

The first CRE Partner Symposium was held June 23rd and 24th in Washington DC. There was a great turn-out including representatives from all 11 NEP partners participating in the CRE program, EPA regional representatives, and EPA headquarters staff from the Office of Air and the Office of Water. The workshop represented an opportunity for 2008 pilot partners to share their experiences and discuss lessons learned with 2009 partners. Each NEP CRE representative presented their project and participated in focused discussions and strategy sessions. Partner projects include vulnerability assessments, adaptation plans, stakeholder communication and outreach, development of climate change indicators and monitoring plans, and development of model ordinances. Main themes from the workshop, including program successes, challenges encountered, and directions for the future; will be captured in a CRE Progress Report document.

Thank you to everyone who attended a productive and interactive workshop!

Partners Share Lessons Learned, Exchange Ideas



Photos courtesy of Carole McCauley

Keep the Good News Coming!

If you know of something happening in your area or have some inside information on a great resource, let us know! It may be featured in the next newsletter.
Contact tidd.marcie@epa.gov

As always, you're encouraged to pass this newsletter on. Help spread the word about coastal adaptation activities!

For more information on Climate Ready Estuaries, visit www.epa.gov/cre, or contact wilson.john@epa.gov or martinich.jeremy@epa.gov

CZ '09 – PRESENTATIONS

The 2009 Coastal Zone conference was held in Boston, Massachusetts this July. This year's theme was "Catching the Wave of Change," and was certainly appropriate given the overarching focus of climate change impacts on coastal systems. A number of our NEP/CRE partners were in attendance and some gave presentations and facilitated discussions.

John Wilson, a team lead for CRE, moderated a session entitled, "Climate-Ready Estuaries: An Adaptation Toolkit to Get Ready for a Changing Climate." The session included some great presentations: Derek Sowers (Piscataqua NEP) on their culvert analysis project; Ann Shellenberger Jones from Industrial Economics on valuating lost ecological services in the Delaware Estuary; and Steve Goldbeck (San Francisco Bay) on their vulnerability assessment and local policy response to sea level rise. Lively discussions on the projects followed.

Jeremy Martinich, also a CRE team lead, presented work on a model developed to project impacts of sea level rise on coastal property.

The conference certainly demonstrated that concerns of climate change effects on coastal systems are widely recognized, yet we have a long way to go in addressing them.

<http://www.csc.noaa.gov/cz/index.html>